



Forest Heights Police Department Policy and Procedures Manual

Subject:	Jurisdiction and Authority			
General Order No.	2016-1	Effective Date:	January 1, 2016	
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A. Purpose

To establish the jurisdiction and authority of Forest Heights Police Department (FHPD) officers.

B. Authority of FHPD Officers

1. Officers of all ranks are the only FHPD employees who are “police officers” with the law enforcement and arrest powers enumerated in various sections of the Annotated Code of Maryland.
2. FHPD officers may execute an arrest warrant within any part of the jurisdiction of the Town of Forest Heights.
3. FHPD officers are certified by the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions and are authorized to carry weapons in the performance of their duties without an additional license.
4. Implicit in the authority to enforce the law and to make arrests is the authority to use force, including deadly force.

C. Limitations on Authority

1. FHPD officers may not generally act:
 - a. outside the jurisdiction of the Town of Forest Heights and;
 - b. in places within the territorial limits of Town of Forest Heights that have been ceded to or acquired by the United States or lawfully used by the federal government.
2. FHPD officers may not enforce motor vehicle laws outside the Town corporate limits or on private, community-owned roadways with access restricted exclusively to community members, unless specifically requested to enforce provisions of the Transportation Article concerning traffic crashes, reckless and negligent driving, driving under the influence or fleeing and eluding.
3. The authority of FHPD officers to pursue a suspect across the Town of Forest Heights jurisdictional limits is described in Chapter 12 Section 7, Subsection E. Vehicle Pursuits.
4. Nothing in this directive should be interpreted to restrict FHPD officers from assisting (backing up) allied law enforcement officers on traffic or criminal stops with the exception of federal lands outside the boundaries of the Town of Forest Heights.